

# Charlevoix County Herald.

Vol. 8

EAST JORDAN, MICHIGAN, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1904.

No 14

## Blamed Himself for Girl's Death

Miss Retta Deschane Killed  
in a Runaway.

Merritt Moore, the Driver,  
then Commits Suicide.

Miss Retta, oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Deschane was killed in a runaway near here last Sunday, and Merritt Moore, considering himself blameable for the accident immediately committed suicide.

The accident occurred last Sunday afternoon between the homes of the two families near the Boyne Falls road, about five miles from this city. Merritt Moore was working for a farmer in the Behling district and on Sunday morning borrowed a team of mustangs and wagon to drive over to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Moore. While there the two Deschane girls came over to visit with the family and when ready to return, Moore took them in his wagon and started for the Deschane house, which is about a half mile distant and connected by an angling farm-road running through a new field full of stumps. On the way they crossed a ravine and corduroy-road, some 15 to 20 rods from the Deschane house. Near the ravine a stump was blazing; this scared the team and they turned off from the road into the field and became unmanageable. Young Moore saw the danger and, calling to the young ladies to jump, bounded off the wagon. Clara, the youngest girl, jumped and landed safely. Retta had a pet dog on the wagon, and she stopped to throw it off, but in doing this she sacrificed her own life. The team and wagon were going at a terrific speed and the wagon struck a stump, overturning same, throwing the girl out and under of the wheels, which passed over her head killing her almost instantly. The accident was seen at the Deschane house and the members of that household ran out to give assistance. Young Moore picked up the body of the almost lifeless girl, but the others appearing on the scene he turned the body over to them and went after team. Tying same to a fence he went over to his home and took down his rifle from the wall. It is evident that he thought the gun was not loaded for a cartridge was found lying on the table which was taken by him from a belt. The rifle was loaded with a No. 48 short cartridge and Moore took same out of the house, went down a few steps to the ground when he placed the muzzle to his forehead, discharged the gun, killing him instantly. No one was at the Moore house when the suicide occurred and the body laid for some time before being discovered.

Coroner Dr. F. A. Foster was summoned and found the body of Moore lying face downward with the gun beneath. The entire top of the head was completely shattered by the charge and Moore's hat blown several feet from the body. A peculiar incident of the suicide was in the fact that he wore his mittens throughout the affair.

The Coroner instituted an inquest and found that the death was due to his own act.

Both bodies were buried, Wednesday, Undertaker Whitlington having charge of the remains. The funeral services of Miss Deschane were held in the forenoon at the Afton School House with burial in the Wilson cemetery, and that of Mr. Moore was held in the afternoon.

## At Loveday Opera House Next Tuesday Even'g.

On Tuesday night Nov. 29th "The Red Widow Brown" company will be at the Loveday Opera House. The comedy is replete with fun, fast and furious, and is greeted with bursts of applause and general merriment everywhere. The mistakes of the young man who is doing his best to impersonate the real, charming widow are most ludicrous. He is assisted by a lively young girl with whom he is in love; while another pair of lovers are working in the same cause, each pair unaware of what the other is up to, making complications innumerable, and funny in the extreme.

The company is under the management of Mr. A. C. Scammon who has many other successful comedies on the road, including "The American Girl," "Town Topics," "The Burglar,"

and others. Special attention has been given to the selection of artists for this company, which includes many well known favorites. The costumes are new and handsome and an unusually attractive musical programme is a feature of the performance.

Seats on sale at Boosinger Bros' store beginning today; regular prices.

## Teachers' Rally a Success.

The Teacher's Rally held in the High School Building Friday evening and Saturday of last week was, while not so very well attended, certainly a very successful meeting.

The evening session drew a fair sized crowd. F. E. Boosinger gave a very interesting talk on the subject, "The Public School," J. Ernest Converse an able address on the subject, "The Republic." This was followed by an address by Supt. F. W. Howe on the subject of, "The Future Citizen."

Their addresses were all of a high order and full of good things.

Supt. Howe treated his subject from the standpoint of a practical teacher and we think that no progressive teacher could afford to miss it.

Saturday's session was called to order by the Pres. H. L. Winters with about thirty teachers present.

Supt. Tice gave a talk on "Cause and Effect" which in our judgment, was of more practical benefit to a rural teacher, than a month's work in a school when theory alone is given.

The contrasts that were shown, relating to old fashioned methods, and the modern up-to-date ones, were certainly well selected.

This was followed by a paper on "English" by Miss McLeese which was a masterpiece and we think that when the bungling methods that are at present used in presenting this subject to pupils are considered, this essay alone would have paid any teacher for the time and effort required to be present.

Miss Edythe Fortune read a paper on "The Environments of the Pupil" and Miss Lou A. Rice on "Social Features of School Life." After listening to these papers it was not hard to guess why these teachers are successful in their work, for the papers plainly showed that they were written by persons who had at least other interests than Friday evening and the monthly visit to the Treasurer's office.

Miss Millman of Charlevoix gave a short talk on "Manual Training."

Prof. DeVoe gave an interesting address on science work. Supt. Howe followed and emphasize a few points that had been given by other speakers in his pleasing and practical way.

M. M. Burnham addressed the institute for a few minutes and gave some comparisons between modern and old fashioned methods, which should be a source of pride for the modern teacher.

He said, "Those teachers whom I most revere were not the ablest scholars but were those who by their example of living taught that which was noble." It is hardly necessary for us to add, that more truthful words were never spoken.

A program was arranged for a similar meeting to be held in Charlevoix in three weeks from date of this one, which will be Dec. 9-10.

These meetings are being held for teachers, and we think that teachers ought to avail themselves of the opportunity of attending.

Merchants, Ministers, Doctors, Lawyers, etc. have their conventions for mutual benefit, and we certainly think that there is no profession in which mutual intercourse is more needed or is productive of greater good than in the teaching profession.

It may seem strange, but the names of teachers who show enough of professional spirit, to be present at some of these meetings are retained by the Examining Board of the county, and it is certain that what influence this Board has and any favors it may show in the way of recommending teachers, will be used in favor of teachers who place themselves in these meetings.

J. H. MILFORD,  
COMMISSIONER OF SCHOOLS.

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## The E. J. H. S. Lecture Course

Dec. 10, 1904.—Slayton Jubilee Singers.

Jan'y 19, 1905.—Wallace Bruce Ambury.

Feb'y 18, 1905.—John R. Clarke.

Mar. 6, 1905.—Dunbar Male Quartette.

Mar. 23, 1905.—Dr. A. A. Wilhite.

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